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improvement worth mentioning been made for improving the slums either by the Corporation of Madras with or without the assistance of the Government of Madras? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Madras Corporation raised a loan of Rs. 30 lakhs in 1951–52 and they have improved 50 slumps standing on Government lands and on Corporation lands. The Corporation has now submitted a scheme of slum improvement to the Government of India asking for about Rs. 5 crores, 50 per cent of it as a subsidy and the other 50 per cent as a loan. The Government of India have said that they cannot give a subsidy but they can give an interest-bearing loan."

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" Are the Government satisfied with the progress made by the Corporation of Madras in the matter of slum improvement? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have already stated what the Corporation has so far done."

Maintenance of stock register in the Barnard Institute of Radiology, Madras.

*293 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any stock register in regard to furniture, equipments, etc., is maintained in the Barnard Institute of Radiology, Madras;

(*b*) if so, who is the officer expected to maintain this stock register;

(*c*) how condemned articles are disposed of; and

(*d*) if the disposal is by auction, who are the auctioneers?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A stock register of the Radiological equipment and stores is maintained by the Store-keeper attached to the Barnard Institute of Radiology. The furniture Steward of the Government General Hospital is maintaining a stock register of furniture and fittings of the hospital including those in the Barnard Institute.

" (*c*) The condemned articles are effectively destroyed or auctioned according to the recommendation of the Condemnation Board.

" (*d*) Messrs. Wright & Co., Madras, are the auctioneers for the hospital for 1955–56."

DR. A. SREENIVASAN :—" May I know who are the members of the Condemnation Board? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Condemnation Board of the Barnard Institute of Radiology consists of the Director, the Seniormost Radiologist in the Diagnostic and Therapeutic sections and the Officer in charge of the stores, viz., the First Physician."

DR. A. SREENIVASAN :—" Are not the members of this Board subordinates to the Chairman? When such is the case are they expected to express their opinions fearlessly whenever articles are condemned? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Articles which are considered unserviceable are either destroyed or auctioned. The Director of the Institute is the Chairman of the Board. Other members are people in the Institute."

DR. A. SREENIVASAN :—" What I want to suggest is when the other members of the Board are subordinates to the Director, do the Government expect them to express their opinions fearlessly? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I do not think there is any difficulty to express their opinions."

DR. A. SREENIVASAN :—" Is it not a fact that some of the so-called condemned article have been purchased by agents of people who knew the value of those articles? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have no information, Sir."

SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" May I know whether there could be any objection for the Government to associate a member who is not an official in this Board to avoid this kind of objection? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" That suggestion will be considered, Sir."

Working of the Madras State Indian Medical Practitioners Co-operative Stores, Limited, Adyar.

4-30 p.m. * 294 Q.—SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Madras State Indian Medical Practitioners Co-operative Stores, Limited, Adyar, Madras, serves the needs of both the Andhra State and Madras State in regard to indigenous medicines;

(*b*) whether the Co-operative Stores, Madras, gets permits for the export of prohibited indigenous medicines such as Asavas and Arishtams for catering to the needs of the Andhra State; and

(*c*) on what basis the sale price of the exported medicines is fixed?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir. It serves the needs of its members in both the States.

" (*b*) It was not getting permits for the export of prohibited indigenous medicines out of the Madras State although the conditions of licence issued to the Stores require taking out such permits. Necessary instructions have since been issued to ensure that such transactions do not take place in future.